

Clinical Congress News

The American College of Surgeons • 83rd Clinical Congress • October 12-17, 1997 • Chicago

Seymour I. Schwartz becomes ACS President tonight

Seymour I. Schwartz, MD, FACS, a general surgeon from Rochester, NY, will be installed as the 78th President of the American College of Surgeons tonight during Convocation ceremonies that conclude the annual Clinical Congress. Dr. Schwartz, who is currently Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, and Immediate-Past Chair of the College's Board of Regents, is the Distinguished Alumni Professor and chair of the department of surgery at the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.

A native of New York City, Dr. Schwartz received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1947, and he earned a medical doctorate from New York University College of Medicine in 1950. Dr. Schwartz was also a research fellow in pathology at the University of Wisconsin in 1949.

Dr. Schwartz served as a resident in surgery at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital, from 1950 to 1957, taking a leave of absence from 1952 to 1954 as a Lieutenant, Jr.

Grade, in the United States Navy. Upon completing his residency in 1957, Dr. Schwartz became an instructor in surgery at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital. He was named a diplomate by the American Board of Surgery in 1958, and by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery in 1960. Dr. Schwartz became a senior instructor in surgery at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital, in 1958, and he was appointed assistant professor of surgery at the same institution in 1959. He was named a Markle Scholar in Academic Medicine in 1960. Dr. Schwartz served as director of surgical research at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital, from 1962 to 1982. He became associate professor of surgery at the institution in 1963, and he has served as professor of surgery there since 1967. Dr. Schwartz assumed his current position as chair of the department of surgery in 1987, and he was named Distinguished Alumni Professor and chair of the department of surgery at the University of Rochester in 1995.

Dr. Schwartz became a Fellow of the

American College of Surgeons in 1959. Since that time, he has faithfully served the College in diverse capacities. He is Immediate-Past Chair of the Board of Regents. Dr. Schwartz also served as President of the College's Upstate New York Chapter (1986); Chair of the Committee for the Forum on Fundamental Surgical Problems (1986); Chair of the Committee on Surgical Education in Medical Schools (1988); Chair of the Program Committee (1992 to 1995); member of the Board of Governors (1982 to 1988); member of the Board of Regents (1988 to 1997); and member of the Advisory Council for Surgery (1988 to the present). He served as Vice-Chair of the Board of Regents (1993 to 1994), and as Chair of the Board of Regents (1994 to 1997).

In 1986, Dr. Schwartz received the College's Distinguished Service Award, the College's highest honor. In presenting Dr. Schwartz with this award, the College cited "his dedication to medical education and research...complemented by unnumbered lectureships and professorships throughout the world..."



Dr. Schwartz

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Schwartz has held more than 100 visiting lectureships and professorships across the nation and abroad.

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Reflections on informed consent at 40

Many physicians believe that informed consent is an "absurd, irrelevant, and even dangerous aspect of medicine," according to Jay Katz, MD, PhD, Elizabeth K. Dollard professor emeritus of law, medicine, and psychiatry, and Harvey L. Karp professorial lecturer in law and psychoanalysis, at Yale Law School, New Haven, CT. Dr. Katz delivered yesterday's Ethics and Philosophy Lecture on "Reflections on Informed Consent 40 Years after Its Birth." Although many physicians are either confused about the definition of informed consent, or skeptical about its value, Dr. Katz argued the point that it is a valid and necessary concept for physicians and patients, particularly within the flux of the late 20th century health care environment.

Dr. Katz traced the history of the informed consent doctrine, which was

first promulgated on October 22, 1957. Many of the cases with which judges had to contend in the early stages of informed consent involved lack of consent, as opposed to lack of information, Dr. Katz said.

Today, Dr. Katz said, informed consent is often misunderstood, and judges reviewing cases often add to this confusion, since the definition of informed consent does not always address the question of the extent of information that must be imparted to the patient.

Dr. Katz stated that "informed consent is a hybrid concept"—the physician provides the information, and the patient makes the decision regarding consent. Therefore, he continued, the physician must respect the patient's decision-making process so that the patient's autonomy as a person will not be compromised.

A positive side to informed consent, Dr. Katz said, is that the judges and

legal authorities who established the concept did not wish to burden physicians. However, physicians traditionally are not accustomed to sharing medical decisions with their patients—the course of treatment has been a unilateral one, Dr. Katz said.

A unilateral decision, he cautioned,

may translate to an uninformed decision, and even to a violation of the patient's rights.

Dr. Katz then reminded physicians that the doctrine of informed consent was not designed as a medical blueprint between physician and patient.

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Reception to be held for Sen. William H. Frist, MD, FACS

Senator William H. Frist, MD, FACS (R-TN) is this year's Martin Memorial Lecturer and will speak on "Operating Outside the Theatre: New Challenges for Leadership." A thoracic surgeon and a Fellow of the College, Senator Frist will present his lecture at 3:15 p.m. in room S100a of McCormick Place South.

Following the lecture, a reception will be held for the Senator from 5 to 6 pm in room S104a of McCormick Place South. Fellows of the College are invited to attend the reception to meet the Senator and to discuss his campaign, "Frist 2000," and other issues with him.

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including appointments at Cornell University and the Mayo Clinic in the United States, and at the Royal Free Hospital in London, the University of Lund in Sweden, the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh, and the University of Paris.

Dr. Schwartz has been awarded memberships in numerous academic, regional, national, and international medical associations and societies, and he has held leadership positions for many of these groups. He has been the president of: The American Surgical Association (1993 to 1994); the Central Surgical Association (1981 to 1982); and the Society for Clinical Surgery (1985). Dr. Schwartz has also served the American Board of Surgery as a member (1973 to 1979) and as vice-chair (1977 to 1979). In addition to his professional activities, Dr. Schwartz has offered his services to other agencies. He was a national consultant in surgery to the United States Air Force (1968 to 1977); he served in a surgery study section of the National Institutes of Health (1974 to 1978); and he was a member of the board of directors for the Monroe County (NY) American

Red Cross (1981 to 1986).

A prolific writer who has contributed immeasurable knowledge to the field of surgical education, Dr. Schwartz has written on a variety of topics, including hepatology, hematology, physiology, and tropical diseases. He has served on the editorial boards of several medical journals, including the *Journal of Surgical Research* (associate editor from 1971 to 1977); the *Review of Surgery* (associate editor from 1971 to present); *Contemporary Surgery* (editor-in-chief from 1973 to present); *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* (editorial board from 1983 to present, and as editor-in-chief from 1996 to present); *World Journal of Surgery* (editorial board from 1979 to present); and *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* (1991 to present). He has authored and coauthored more than 200 scientific and medical publications, including serving as editor-in-chief for published textbooks such as *Principles of Surgery*, *Tropical Surgery*, *Yearbook of Surgery*, *Abdominal Operations*, and *Surgical Pre-Test*.

Throughout his career, Dr. Schwartz has received many service awards, in-

cluding the Sesquicentennial Medal from the University of South Carolina in 1974; the Acrel Medal from the Swedish Surgical Association in 1975; the Honoris Causa from the University of Lund, Sweden, in 1989; and the Albert David Kaiser Medal from the Rochester Academy of Medicine in 1992. He was named the Dean's Senior Teaching Scholar from the University of Rochester in 1996.

Dr. Schwartz received the Doctor Honoris Causa Universidad Complutense from the University of Madrid in May 1997. He holds honorary memberships in numerous surgical societies, including the Brazilian College of Surgeons; the Mexican Association of General Surgery; the Colombian Society of Surgery; the Ecuadorian Surgical Society; the Association of Surgeons of West Africa; and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

His interest in the history of cartography has led Dr. Schwartz to write two books on the subject. He was coauthor of *The Mapping of America* (1980, New York: Abrams), and author of *The French and Indian War, 1754-1763*,

The Imperial Struggle for North America (1995, New York: Simon & Schuster). He is also a member of the International Society for History of Cartography, and he recently became a member of the Board at the National Museum of American History.

Dr. Schwartz and his wife, Dr. Ruth Schwartz, who is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, reside in Rochester, NY.

Other officials to be installed tonight are James C. Thompson, MD, FACS, Galveston, TX, as First Vice-President, and W. Hardy Hendren III, MD, FACS, as Second Vice-President.

Dr. Thompson is Ashbel Smith Professor of Surgery at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. He is the recipient of the College's 1996 Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Hendren is the Robert E. Gross Professor of Surgery and chief of surgery, Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA. He has been a Fellow since 1963 and has served as a member of the Board of Governors (1981-1986) and as President of the Massachusetts Chapter (1989).



Outreach activities at scientific exhibits

As important to the compleat practice of surgery as other topical issues is the call for surgeons to offer their services to overseas or needy peoples.

Two scientific exhibits this year offer windows for such outreach opportunities: "General Surgery on the Edge of the Desert," SE #127, staffed by Harold P. Adolph, MD, FACS, Sim Galmi Hospital, West Africa; and "Surgical Experience at Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Hangzhou, People's Republic of China," staffed by Robert K. Finley, Jr., MD, FACS. Detailed and provocative accounts of the overseas experiences of both Dr. Adolph and Dr. Finley have been published in the *Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons*, and are available from the Bulletin editorial office upon request.

The following companies have supported the Clinical Congress with advertisements in the Exhibit Guide section of this issue:

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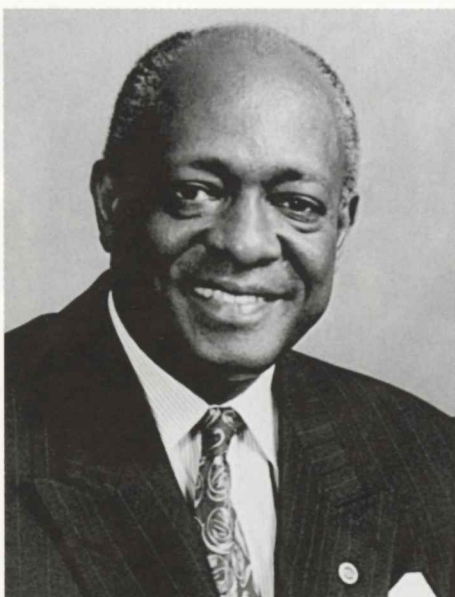
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Items of interest or information must be reported to the office of the *Clinical Congress News* by 11:30 am on the day preceding the desired day of publication.



Dr. Turner-Warwick



Dr. Ajayi



Dr. Taylor



Dr. Siewert

ACS awards four Honorary Fellowships

Honorary Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons will be awarded tonight to four prominent surgeons from England, Nigeria, Australia, and Germany. The awards will be presented during the Convocation ceremonies that conclude the Clinical Congress. The recipients will be:

- Richard Turner-Warwick, CBE, MD, FRCS(Eng), FRCOG, FRACS (HON), FRCP(London), Exeter, England. Professor Turner-Warwick is visiting consultant urologist, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney; emeritus surgeon, The Middlesex Hospital, London; and emeritus urologist, St. Peter's Hospitals, London.

- Professor Olajide Olaolu Adedapo

Ajayi, MBBS, FRCS (Eng), Ibadan, Oyo, Nigeria. Professor Ajayi is the chief medical director of University College Hospital; professor of surgery, University of Ibadan.

- Professor Geoffrey Ian Taylor, MD, MBBS, FRCS (Eng & Edin), FRACS, Melbourne, Australia. Professor Taylor is head of the plastic surgery unit and director of the Jack Brockhoff Reconstructive Plastic Surgery Unit, and professor, plastic surgery, department of surgery, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne; senior consultant plastic surgeon, Preston and Northcote Community Hospital, Melbourne; and honorary consulting plastic surgeon, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne.

- Professor Joerg Rudiger Siewert,

MD, Munich, Germany. Professor Siewert is chairman of the department of surgery and professor of surgery at Technische Universität München.

Presenting the Honorary Fellowships will be: Thomas Krizek, MD, FACS, Tampa, FL; Paul C. Peters, MD, FACS, Dallas, TX; Bernard Langer, MD, FACS, Toronto, ON, who are members of the College's Board of Regents, and LaSalle D. Leffall, Jr., MD, FACS, Washington, DC, Immediate Past-President of the College.

During the College's Convocation ceremonies this year, 1,592 surgeons from around the world will be admitted into Fellowship. With a membership of more than 59,000, the College is the largest organization of surgeons

in the world. Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons is awarded during the ceremonies to surgeons whose education and training, professional qualifications, surgical competence, and ethical conduct have passed a rigorous evaluation and have been found to be consistent with the high standards established and demanded by the College.

Sir Rickman Godlee, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, was awarded the first Honorary Fellowship in the College during the College's first Convocation in 1913. Since then, 358 internationally prominent surgeons, including the four chosen this year, have been named Honorary Fellows of the American College of Surgeons.

Questions? Comments?

As the 83rd Clinical Congress winds down, the College officers and staff wish to express their gratitude for your attendance.

Concomitantly, it is the College's hope that, as a Congress attendee, you enjoyed the sessions, lectures, and other offerings of this event.

If you have questions for any of the speakers or panelists that you were not able to have addressed, or if you have any comments about the programs or content of the Congress, please contact College headquarters with your inquiries or remarks: ACS, 55 East Erie St., Chicago, IL, 60611; tel. 312/664-4050. E-mail: gstrauch@facs.org.

Don't miss your Friday CCN

Fellows who will not be in Chicago tomorrow to pick up the Friday issue of the *Clinical Congress News* may obtain a copy by contacting the College's headquarters.

The Friday issue of this newspaper contains information on Convocation activities, an announcement of the College's

President-Elect and other Officers-Elect, as well as information on new and re-elected Regents and Governors.

Copies of the Friday issue may be obtained by contacting Stephen Regnier, Editor, ACS, 55 E. Erie St., Chicago, IL 60611; tel. 312/664-4050, e-mail sregnier@facs.org.

Registration totals

As of Wednesday afternoon, total registration for the Clinical Congress was 16,643. Of that number, 8,662 were physicians and the rest were exhibitors, guests, spouses, or convention personnel.



William Silen, MD, FACS (right), receives a presentation copy of the 1997 *Owen H. Wangenstein Surgical Forum* from Laurence Y. Cheung, MD, FACS, Chair of the Committee for the Forum on Fundamental Surgical Problems. The 48th volume of the *Surgical Forum* is dedicated to Dr. Silen in recognition of his outstanding career as surgical educator, investigator, and leader in the field of gastrointestinal physiology.



Distinguished Service Award recipients came together for a luncheon on Tuesday. From left to right (top row): Robert E. Hermann, Barry M. Manuel, Stuart Mally, and C. Thomas Thompson. Bottom row: James Thompson, Luis F. Sala, C. Barber Mueller, Seymour I. Schwartz, and Vallee L. Willman.



Past Presidents of the College, who comprise the Advisory Council to the Board of Regents, attended a Tuesday luncheon in their honor. In attendance were: (from left to right, top row): Oliver H. Beahrs, Henry T. Bahnson, LaSalle D. Leffall, Jr., C. Rollins Hanlon, William H. Muller, Jr., M. J. Jurkiewicz, and John M. Beal. Bottom row: James D. Hardy, Ralph A. Straffon, W. Gerald Austen, G. Tom Shires, Frank C. Spencer, Lloyd D. MacLean, and Jonathan E. Rhoads.

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It is up to physicians, he said, to involve and inform the patient as an autonomous person.

The doctrine of informed consent, Dr. Katz said, does not necessarily legally block the road to physicians "therapeutic privileges" when courts are adjudicating cases.

Finally, Dr. Katz discussed the College's role in issues related to informed consent. He reviewed the Board of Regents Committee on Ethics official statement on informed consent, and deemed it "excellent." However, he said, "principles standing alone are not enough." Dr. Katz suggested that the College establish

a committee, limited to surgeons, to address the application of those principles. For example, Dr. Katz said, there should be degrees of disclosure requirements, such as limited disclosure for acute disorders, full disclosure for elective procedures, and disclosure at a measured or "slow" pace when the diagnosis is dire.

In this day of invasive managed care corporations that may undermine physicians' practices and the quality of patient care, Dr. Katz said, respecting the patient's autonomy and enhancing the physician-patient dialogue not only safeguards the patient, it protects the physician as well.

Allied Meetings

Thursday

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons-Fecal Incontinence Group
7:00 am - 8:00 am. Breakfast.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 5.

SSAT Patient Care Committee
8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Breakfast.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 7.

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons-Public Relations Committee
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Luncheon.
Hilton and Towers, 5th floor, 5F.

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons-Standards
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm. Meeting.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 5.

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons-Regional Society Committee
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Meeting.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 6.

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons-DC&R Editorial Board
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Meeting.
Hilton and Towers, 2nd floor. Boulevard A.

Friday

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons - Pre Agenda/Council Meeting
3:00 pm. Meeting.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, Astoria Room.

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons/Executive Council
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Dinner.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 1.

Saturday

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons/Executive Council Meeting
7:30 am - 3:00 pm. Breakfast.
Hilton and Towers, 3rd floor, PDR 2.